

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3011

ANSWERED ON:29.08.2013

DD AND AIR SERVICES

Agarwal Shri Rajendra;Jakhar Shri Badri Ram ;Rana Shri Jagdish Singh

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) the percentage of areas/population which still remains to be covered by Doordarshan (DD) and All India Radio (AIR) services along with the reasons therefor;
- (b) the details of the survey conducted by the Government in this regard and the steps taken/being taken by the Government to ensure the coverage of DD/AIR services in all the areas/population of the country;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to set up Doordarshan/ Akashwani Kendras in various parts of the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, location and State-wise;
- (e) whether the Government has received the proposals from the various State Governments for the setting up of DD/Akashwani Kendras and upgradation of low power transmitters and very low power transmitters in their respective States, during the last three years and the current year; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARI)

(a) & (b): All India Radio has informed that at present, only about 8.0 % area of the country remains uncovered by terrestrial coverage of AIR. These uncovered areas are mostly thinly populated in border states and as such only 0.80 % of the population of the country (living in these areas) is not getting Programmes of AIR through terrestrial Radio network. However, 21 radio channels (Programmes) of AIR are available through DD Direct plus free-to air DTH platform (Ku band) which are available all over India including these areas except Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

In order to further augment the coverage, the power of 12 transmitters of AIR is being upgraded and 125 additional MW/ FM Transmitters of various capacities are being installed throughout the country.

Scheme for setting up of additional 160 FM Transmitters of various capacities and up-gradation of 58 existing AM / FM transmitters is envisaged in the 12th Five Year Plan all over the country.

Doordarshan has informed that in terrestrial mode, TV coverage is estimated to be available to about 92% population of the country spread over about 81% area. All the areas uncovered by terrestrial transmitters along with rest of the country have been provided with multichannel TV coverage through Doordarshan's free to air DTH service "DD Direct Plus". The following transmitter projects are under implementation:

J&K 1. HPT, Green Ridge 2. HPT, Himbotingla 3. HPT Natha Top 4.HPTs Rajouri (DD1 & DD NEWS)

A&N Islands VLPT, Joginder Nagar.

(c) & (d): Yes Sir. All India Radio has informed that new stations of the All India Radio (AIR), approved under 11th Plan are being set up at 93 places in the country. The state- wise details are given in Annexure-I.

Proposal for setting up of New AIR stations at 130 places in the country is also envisaged in the 12th Plan.

Doordarshan has informed that there is no scheme to set up any new Doordarshan Kendra (Studio centre).

(e) & (f): Yes Sir. All India Radio has informed that the state wise details of proposals received from the State Government during the last three years to set up transmitters in various parts of the country along with the action taken are given in Annexure-II.

The state wise details of proposals received from the various states regarding upgradation of low power transmitters of AIR along with the action taken are given in Annexure-III.

Doordarshan has informed that Proposals from various State Governments are received from time to time for setting up of new Doordarshan Kendras & upgradation of the existing low power & very low power transmitters in their respective states. Some of the

proposals received from State Governments during the last three years (2010-11, 2011-12, 2012- 13) and the current year are as under:

1. Setting up of more relay centres in Arunachal Pradesh, 2. Installation of TV transmitter at Ghangasu, Bangar & Sidh Soudh in Uttarakhand. 3. Establishment of VLPT at Matho, Stakna & Nang Villages in Ladakh District of J&K 4. Establishment of Doordarshan Kendra/ transmitters in Saraipalli and other places of Chhattisgarh. 5. Upgradation of LPT, Dumka in Jharkhand

In view of multichannel TV coverage having been provided through Doordarshan's free to air DTH service "DD Direct Plus", to all the areas uncovered by terrestrial transmitters, along with rest of the country, new transmitters for expansion of terrestrial coverage are now, not envisaged (except a few in border areas).

There is no scheme to set up any new transmitter/ upgradation of existing transmitter at any of the place, requested by State Governments